**Popularisation of New Technique for operation of Cataract**

3287. SHRI LAKKHI RAM AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) approximate number of persons lost their eye-sight during the last three years, year-wise due to faulty operations or non-operation of cataract;

(b) whether in a recently held All India Eye Specialists Conference, a new technique (Faco Emulcific treatment) has been discussed for operation of the disease; and

(c) whether Government propose to popularise the new technique for successful operation of the disease; and if not, reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) No such data is maintained at the Central level.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) This technique is relatively difficult as compared to conventional cataract surgery and has a long learning curve for the surgeon. The recurring cost for maintaining the machine is also very high. This technique is not used at present for high volume srugery. It should be limited to those who demand early visual rehabilitation and can afford the cost in the hospitals where the phaco-emulsification technique has been established.

**दिल्ली में सांप के काटने के मामले**

3288. **प्रो० विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा:** क्या **स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) दिल्ली में पिछले तीन वर्षों में प्रति वर्ष सांप के काटने के कितने मामले हुए;

(ख) इनमें से कितने व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु हो गई;

(ग) दिल्ली में कितने सरकारी अस्पतालों में सांप के काटने के इलाज का प्रबन्ध है; और

(घ) जिन अस्पतालों में इस समय इस संबंध में इलाज का प्रबन्ध नहीं है, वहां प्रबन्ध करने के लिए सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है?

**विधि और न्याय मंत्रालय के राज्यमंत्री (श्री रमाकांत डी० खलप):** (क) और (ख) उपलब्ध सूचना के अनुसार दिल्ली में पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान अस्पतालों को मिली सूचना के अनुसार सर्पदंश और उनसे हुई मौतों की संख्या नीचे दर्शायी गई है:—

| | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 |
|---|---|---|---|
| रोगी | 130 | 129 | 136 |
| मौतें | 1 | 7 | 2 |

(ग) सभी सरकारी केन्द्रीय अस्पतालों तथा राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली सरकार के अंतर्गत सामान्य अस्पतालों एवं औषधालयों में सर्पदंश के उपचार की सुविधाएं उपलब्ध हैं।

(घ) उपरोक्त (ग) के उत्तर को देखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

**Launching of Anti-Malaria Drug "ARTEETHER" to Control Malaria**

3289. SHRI VED PRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Central Drug Research Institute has plans to launch an anti-Malaria drug "Arteether" to control Malaria;

(b) whether this drug in an allopathic, ayurvedic or homoeopathic formulation;

(c) how long field trials have been taken and what was the sample size of population on which such trials were taken;

(d) whether Government have conducted any laboratory tests prior to its launch and the side affects of the drug, if any; and

(e) how much will be the cost to be paid by the patients for a full course?